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EXAMINER

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2614

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Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary	Application No. 10/067,968	Applicant(s) LOGHMANI, MASOUD	
	Examiner Joseph T. Phan	Art Unit 2614	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 02 March 2006.
- 2a) ☒ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☐ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-24 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☒ Claim(s) 8 and 13 is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-7, 9-12 and 14-24 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
- ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 - ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 - ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152) |
| 3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____ | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |

DETAILED ACTION

Priority

1. Applicant's claim for the benefit of a prior-filed application under 35 U.S.C. 120 is acknowledged. Applicant has not complied with one or more conditions for receiving the benefit of an earlier filing date under 35 U.S.C. [1] as follows:

The later-filed application must be an application for a patent for an invention which is also fully enabled in the prior application (the provisional application). The disclosure of the invention in the parent application and in the later-filed application must be sufficient to comply with the requirements of the first paragraph of 35 U.S.C. 112. See *Transco Products, Inc. v. Performance Contracting, Inc.*, 38 F.3d 551, 32 USPQ2d 1077 (Fed. Cir. 1994).

The disclosure of the prior-filed application, Application No. 60/267,207 fails to provide adequate support or enablement in the manner provided by the first paragraph of 35 U.S.C. 112 for one or more claims of this application. Among other things for example, prior application –207 does not teach nor enable a data source comprising at least one of an information site and the application site, the data source interaction session comprising a session with business logic corresponding to the data source. Furthermore, app –207 does not teach nor enable establishing a connection with a session management gateway that is connected downstream of the data source via the internet and upstream of a client device. Accordingly, claims 1-24 are not entitled to the benefit of the prior application.

Furthermore, it is noted that the inventive entity of the prior provisional

application, which names three inventors, is not the same as the current application, which names only one of the three inventors. Therefore, it is not known what parts of the prior provisional application, each of the three inventors had in their possession to claim priority over the prior provisional application. Until further information is provided, the examiner will use the current application's filing date as the priority date (February 8th, 2002).

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

2. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

3. **Claims 1-7, 9-12, and 14-24 rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Hanson, Patent 5,922,045.**

Regarding claim 1, Hanson teaches a software-based method that allows users to access an information site or an application site on the internet by one or more client devices comprising a telephone, a mobile phone and a data device (col.1 lines 55-64 and col.6 lines 25-49), the method comprising the steps of: performing a transaction session by accessing a data source in multiple phases, the data source comprising at least one of the information site and the application site, the transaction session comprising at least one client interaction session and a data source interaction session the client interaction session comprising a data access session with the client device the data source interaction session comprising a session with business

logic corresponding to the data source, the multiple phases comprising different client interaction sessions via the one or more client devices to participate in at least part of the transaction session(col.4 lines 23-67); and

storing session data relating, to the transaction session in a memory device the session data comprising user identification data for associating the transaction session to a user participating in the transaction session(col.3 lines 28-36) the session data being saved at different steps of the transaction session and using the stored session data to allow the user to terminate a call that constitutes one of the multiple phases before completion of the transaction session(col.4 lines 52-col.5 line 11), and establish another call at a later time to continue the transaction session with one of the information site and the application site during another one of the multiple phases(*col.5 lines 15-col.6 line 5*).

Regarding claim 2, Hanson teaches a system as claimed in claim 6, wherein users access the system using plurality of different devices in during respective ones of the multiple phases of interaction(*col.6 lines 25-45*).

Regarding claim 3, Hanson teaches a system as claimed in claim 6, wherein each user accessing the system is identified using at least one of a combination of username and password, a pin and pass-code, cookie information, and other identification technique available through the use of the client device(col.5 lines 15-35).

Regarding claim 4, Hanson teaches a method as claimed in claim 1, wherein the session data allows the user to continue the transaction session at substantially the

same point during the transaction session where the call was earlier dropped or data contact was terminated(*col.5 lines 43-col.6 line 6*).

Regarding claim 5, Hanson teaches a method as claimed in claim 1, wherein the storing step comprises the step of storing session data in a memory device corresponding to a session management gateway connected downstream of the information site or the application site via the internet and upstream of the client devices(*Fig.1 and col.6 lines 25-57*).

Regarding claim 6, Hanson teaches a method as claimed in claim 5, wherein the storing step comprises the step of storing the session data in the memory device independently of the information site, the application site, the business logic, a back end data server, the client device, and the access medium employed by the client device to establish an interaction session to access the session management gateway(*Fig.1 and col.6 lines 25-57*).

Regarding claim 7, Hanson teaches a method as claimed in claim 5, wherein the session data is retained in the memory device even during the absence of the user device being connected to the session management gateway(*Fig.1 and col.6 lines 35-57*).

Regarding claim 9, Hanson teaches a system for managing access of a client device to a data source comprising at least one of an information site and an application site on the internet(*Fig.1, col.1 lines 55-64 and col.6 lines 25-49*), comprising:
a session management gateway connected downstream of the data source via the internet and upstream of a client device; and a memory device read from and written to

by the session management gateway and not by a user interface module, nor the client device, nor a back end data server employed upstream of the session management gateway, nor the data source(Fig.1, *col.5 lines 15-col.6 line 57*);

wherein the session management gateway is programmable to store transaction session data in the memory device that relates the user to a transaction session with the data source in response to a user initiating the transaction session by establishing a connection with the session management gateway via a client device that employs a voice device or a data device (Fig.1, *col.5 lines 15-col.6 line 57*);

the transaction session comprising at least one client interaction session and a data source interaction session, the client interaction session comprising a data access session with the client device, the data source interaction session comprising a session corresponding to the data source, the transaction session data being stored independently of the information site, the application site, business logic employed upstream of the session management gateway, a back end data server, the client device, and the access medium employed by the client device to establish an interaction session to access the session management gateway for participation in the transaction session following connection with the session management gateway by the client device (Fig.1, *col.5 lines 15-col.6 line 57*);

the session management gateway being configured to associate user identification data corresponding to the user with the transaction session data for that user when the user establishes the connection, maintain the user identification data after the user terminates the connection, and to map any subsequent interaction sessions that are

initiated by the user establishing another connection to the session management gateway using the client device or another device to the transaction session by using the user identification data after the user has identified himself(Fig.1, *col.5 lines 15-col.6 line 57*).

Regarding claim 10, Hanson teaches a system as claimed in claim 9, wherein the data source comprises a single application and the session management gateway interacts with the single application for the transaction session, and the system is operable to support multiple phases with respect to the transaction session, the multiple phases comprising different client interaction sessions via the one or more client devices to participate in at least part of the transaction session, the client device being a telephone in one phase, and a data device in another phase(Fig.1, *col.5 lines 15-col.6 line 57*).

Regarding claim 11, Hanson teaches a system as claimed in claim 9, wherein the session management gateway is operable to store transaction session data corresponding to plural transaction sessions in the memory device independently of the information site, the application site, a back end data server, the business logic, the client device, and the access medium employed by the client device to establish an interaction session to access the session management gateway to avoid being application-specific(Fig.1, *col.5 lines 15-col.6 line 57*).

Regarding claim 12, Hanson teaches a system as claimed in claim 9, wherein the transaction session data is retained in the memory device even during the absence of

the user device being connected to the session management gateway(Fig.1, *col.5 lines 15-col.6 line 57*).

Regarding claim 14, Hanson teaches a system as claimed in claim 9, wherein the transaction session data is retained in the memory device a predetermined period of time and then deleted therefrom if no other phases or client interaction sessions are commenced during the predetermined period of time(Fig.1, *col.5 lines 15-col.6 line 57*).

Regarding claim 15, Hanson teaches a system as claimed in claim 9, wherein the transaction session data is saved to the memory device at different events in the transaction(Fig.1, *col.5 lines 15-col.6 line 57*).

Regarding claim 16, Hanson teaches a system as claimed in claim 9, further comprising at least one other session management gateway being configured to access the memory device and to store transaction session data therein(Fig.1, *col.5 lines 15-col.6 line 57*).

Regarding claim 17, Hanson teaches a system as claimed in claim 16, wherein the session management gateways connected to the memory device are operable to maintain respective phases comprising client interaction sessions in the same transaction session(Fig.1, *col.5 lines 15-col.6 line 57*).

Regarding claim 18, Hanson teaches a method for managing access of a user device to a data source comprising at least one of an information site and an application site on the internet comprising the steps of: establishing a first client interaction session when a first connection is established with a session management gateway by a user device to initiate a transaction session with the data source(Fig.1, *col.5 lines 15-col.6*

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line 57),

the session management gateway being connected downstream of the data source via the internet and upstream of the user device; storing transaction session data relating to the transaction session in a memory device read from and written to by the session management gateway and not the user interface, nor the user device, nor a back end data server, nor the data source, the transaction session data comprising user identification data for associating the transaction session to a user participating in the transaction session, the transaction session data is saved at different steps of the transaction session(Fig.1, *col.5 lines 15-col.6 line 57*);

terminating the first client interaction session when the first connection is terminated; initiating a second client interaction session at the user device or another device when a second connection is established with the session management gateway by the user device or another device wherein the user provides user identification data to the session management gateway; and mapping the second client interaction session with the transaction session by using the user identification data after the user has identified himself(Fig.1, *col.5 lines 15-col.6 line 57*).

Regarding claim 19, Hanson teaches a computer-readable storage device operable to store transaction session data relating to transaction sessions, the transaction sessions comprising data access sessions to access a data source in multiple phases, the data source selected from an information site and an application site on the internet, the computer-readable storage device being employed downstream of the data source and upstream of a client device(Fig.1, *col.5 lines 15-col.6 line 57*),

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the transaction session comprising at least one client interaction session and a data source interaction session, the client interaction session comprising a data access session with the client device, the data source interaction session comprising a session with business logic corresponding to the data source, the transaction session data being stored independently of the information site, the application site, business logic employed upstream of the computer-readable storage device, the client device(Fig.1, *col.5 lines 15-col.6 line 57*), and

the access medium employed by the client device to establish an interaction session to participate in the transaction, following a connection by a client device to a processing device that employs the computer-readable device, the multiple phases comprising different client interaction sessions via the one or more client devices to participate in at least part of the transaction session, respective ones of the different client interaction sessions being established when a client device establishes a connection to the processing device(Fig.1, *col.5 lines 15-col.6 line 57*),

the transaction session data comprising user identification data for associating the transaction session to a user participating in the transaction session, the transaction session data being saved by the computer-readable storage device at different steps of the transaction session to allow a client device to terminate its connection to the processing device before completion of the transaction session and to establish another connection at a later time to continue the transaction session during another one of the multiple phases(Fig.1, *col.5 lines 15-col.6 line 57*).

Regarding claim 20, Hanson teaches a computer-readable storage device as claimed in claim 19, wherein the computer-readable storage device is operable with a session management gateway connected downstream of the data source and upstream of the client devices, the session management gateway being operable to manage the transaction sessions independently of the data source, the business logic, the client devices and access medium employed by the client devices, and the transaction session data is retained in the computer-readable storage device even during the absence of the user device being connected to the session management gateway(Fig.1, *col.5 lines 15-col.6 line 57*).

Regarding claim 21, Hanson teaches a computer-readable storage device as claimed in claim 19, wherein the transaction session data is retained in the computer-readable storage device for a predetermined period of time and deleted therefrom if no phases or client interaction sessions are commenced during the predetermined period of time(Fig.1, *col.5 lines 15-col.6 line 57*).

Regarding claim 22, Hanson teaches a method as claimed in claim 8, wherein a user initiates the subsequent client interaction session to continue the transaction session and provides the same user identification data(Fig.1, *col.5 lines 15-col.6 line 57*).

Regarding claim 23, Hanson teaches a system as claimed in claim 9, wherein the data source comprises a single application and the session management gateway interacts with the single application for the transaction session, and the system is operable to support multiple phases with respect to the transaction session, the multiple

phases comprising different client interaction sessions via the one or more client devices to participate in at least part of the transaction session, the client device being a data device in one phase, and a data device in another phase(Fig.1, *col.5 lines 15-col.6 line 57*).

Regarding claim 24, Hanson teaches a method as claimed in claim 18, wherein the user identification data is provided automatically via the user device(Fig.1, *col.5 lines 15-col.6 line 57*).

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

4. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(e) the invention was described in (1) an application for patent, published under section 122(b), by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent or (2) a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent, except that an international application filed under the treaty defined in section 351(a) shall have the effects for purposes of this subsection of an application filed in the United States only if the international application designated the United States and was published under Article 21(2) of such treaty in the English language.

5. **Claims 1-7, 9-12, and 14-24 rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Elsey et al., Patent #6,801,763.**

Regarding claim 1, Elsey teaches a software-based method that allows users to access an information site or an application site on the internet by one or more client devices comprising a telephone, a mobile phone and a data device(Fig.1 and 9, and col.2 lines 19-23) the method comprising the steps of:
performing a transaction session by accessing a data source in multiple phases, the data source comprising at least one of the information site and the application site, the

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transaction session comprising at least one client interaction session and a data source interaction session the client interaction session comprising a data access session with the client device the data source interaction session comprising a session with business logic corresponding to the data source, the multiple phases comprising different client interaction sessions via the one or more client devices to participate in at least part of the transaction session(Fig.6 and 7, col.4 lines 1-33, and col.10 lines 1-45) and storing session data relating, to the transaction session in a memory device the session data comprising user identification data for associating the transaction session to a user participating in the transaction session the session data being saved at different steps of the transaction session and using the stored session data to allow the user to terminate a call that constitutes one of the multiple phases before completion of the transaction session, and establish another call at a later time to continue the transaction session with one of the information site and the application site during another one of the multiple phases(Fig.6 and 7, col.4 lines 1-33, and col.10 lines 1-45).

Regarding claim 2, Elsey teaches a system as claimed in claim 6, wherein users access the system using plurality of different devices in during respective ones of the multiple phases of interaction(Fig.6 and 7, col.4 lines 1-33, and col.10 lines 1-45).

Regarding claim 3, Elsey teaches a system as claimed in claim 6, wherein each user accessing the system is identified using at least one of a combination of username and password, a pin and pass-code, cookie information, and other identification technique available through the use of the client device(Fig.6 and 7, col.4 lines 1-33, and col.10 lines 1-45).

Regarding claim 4, Elsey teaches a method as claimed in claim 1, wherein the session data allows the user to continue the transaction session at substantially the same point during the transaction session where the call was earlier dropped or data contact was terminated(Fig.6 and 7, col.4 lines 1-33, and col.10 lines 1-45).

Regarding claim 5, Elsey teaches a method as claimed in claim 1, wherein the storing step comprises the step of storing session data in a memory device corresponding to a session management gateway connected downstream of the information site or the application site via the internet and upstream of the client devices(Figs.1, 6 and 7, col.4 lines 1-33, and col.10 lines 1-45).

Regarding claim 6, Elsey teaches a method as claimed in claim 5, wherein the storing step comprises the step of storing the session data in the memory device independently of the information site, the application site, the business logic, a back end data server, the client device, and the access medium employed by the client device to establish an interaction session to access the session management gateway(Figs.1, 6 and 7, col.4 lines 1-33, and col.10 lines 1-45).

Regarding claim 7, Elsey teaches a method as claimed in claim 5, wherein the session data is retained in the memory device even during the absence of the user device being connected to the session management gateway(Figs.1, 6 and 7, col.4 lines 1-33, and col.10 lines 1-45).

Regarding claim 9, Elsey teaches a system for managing access of a client device to a data source comprising at least one of an information site and an application site on the internet(Figs.1, 6 and 7), comprising:

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a session management gateway connected downstream of the data source via the internet and upstream of a client device; and

a memory device read from and written to by the session management gateway and not by a user interface module, nor the client device, nor a back end data server employed upstream of the session management gateway, nor the data source(Figs.1, 6 and 7, col.4 lines 1-33, and col.10 lines 1-45).

wherein the session management gateway is programmable to store transaction session data in the memory device that relates the user to a transaction session with the data source in response to a user initiating the transaction session by establishing a connection with the session management gateway via a client device that employs a voice device or a data device(Figs.1, 6 and 7, col.4 lines 1-33, and col.10 lines 1-45); the transaction session comprising at least one client interaction session and a data source interaction session, the client interaction session comprising a data access session with the client device, the data source interaction session comprising a session corresponding to the data source, the transaction session data being stored independently of the information site, the application site, business logic employed upstream of the session management gateway, a back end data server, the client device, and the access medium employed by the client device to establish an interaction session to access the session management gateway for participation in the transaction session following connection with the session management gateway by the client device (Figs.1, 6 and 7, col.4 lines 1-33, and col.10 lines 1-45);

the session management gateway being configured to associate user identification data corresponding to the user with the transaction session data for that user when the user establishes the connection, maintain the user identification data after the user terminates the connection, and to map any subsequent interaction sessions that are initiated by the user establishing another connection to the session management gateway using the client device or another device to the transaction session by using the user identification data after the user has identified himself(Figs.1, 6 and 7, col.4 lines 1-33, and col.10 lines 1-45).

Regarding claim 10, Elsey teaches a system as claimed in claim 9, wherein the data source comprises a single application and the session management gateway interacts with the single application for the transaction session, and the system is operable to support multiple phases with respect to the transaction session, the multiple phases comprising different client interaction sessions via the one or more client devices to participate in at least part of the transaction session, the client device being a telephone in one phase, and a data device in another phase(Figs.1, 6 and 7, col.4 lines 1-33, and col.10 lines 1-45).

Regarding claim 11, Elsey teaches a system as claimed in claim 9, wherein the session management gateway is operable to store transaction session data corresponding to plural transaction sessions in the memory device independently of the information site, the application site, a back end data server, the business logic, the client device, and the access medium employed by the client device to establish an

interaction session to access the session management gateway to avoid being application-specific(Figs.1, 6 and 7, col.4 lines 1-33, and col.10 lines 1-45).

Regarding claim 12, Elsey teaches a system as claimed in claim 9, wherein the transaction session data is retained in the memory device even during the absence of the user device being connected to the session management gateway(Figs.1, 6 and 7, col.4 lines 1-33, and col.10 lines 1-45).

Regarding claim 14, Elsey teaches a system as claimed in claim 9, wherein the transaction session data is retained in the memory device a predetermined period of time and then deleted therefrom if no other phases or client interaction sessions are commenced during the predetermined period of time(Figs.1, 6 and 7, col.4 lines 1-33, and col.10 lines 1-45).

Regarding claim 15, Elsey teaches a system as claimed in claim 9, wherein the transaction session data is saved to the memory device at different events in the transaction(Figs.1, 6 and 7, col.4 lines 1-33, and col.10 lines 1-45).

Regarding claim 16, Elsey teaches a system as claimed in claim 9, further comprising at least one other session management gateway being configured to access the memory device and to store transaction session data therein(Figs.1, 6 and 7, col.4 lines 1-33, and col.10 lines 1-45).

Regarding claim 17, Elsey teaches a system as claimed in claim 16, wherein the session management gateways connected to the memory device are operable to maintain respective phases comprising client interaction sessions in the same transaction session(Figs.1, 6 and 7, col.4 lines 1-33, and col.10 lines 1-45).

Regarding claim 18, Elsey teaches a method for managing access of a user device to a data source comprising at least one of an information site and an application site on the internet comprising the steps of: establishing a first client interaction session when a first connection is established with a session management gateway by a user device to initiate a transaction session with the data source(Figs.1, 6 and 7, col.4 lines 1-33, and col.10 lines 1-45).

the session management gateway being connected downstream of the data source via the internet and upstream of the user device; storing transaction session data relating to the transaction session in a memory device read from and written to by the session management gateway and not the user interface, nor the user device, nor a back end data server, nor the data source, the transaction session data comprising user identification data for associating the transaction session to a user participating in the transaction session, the transaction session data is saved at different steps of the transaction session(Figs.1, 6 and 7, col.4 lines 1-33, and col.10 lines 1-45);

terminating the first client interaction session when the first connection is terminated; initiating a second client interaction session at the user device or another device when a second connection is established with the session management gateway by the user device or another device wherein the user provides user identification data to the session management gateway; and mapping the second client interaction session with the transaction session by using the user identification data after the user has identified himself(Figs.1, 6 and 7, col.4 lines 1-33, and col.10 lines 1-45).

Regarding claim 19, Elsey teaches a computer-readable storage device

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operable to store transaction session data relating to transaction sessions, the transaction sessions comprising data access sessions to access a data source in multiple phases, the data source selected from an information site and an application site on the internet, the computer-readable storage device being employed downstream of the data source and upstream of a client device(Figs.1, 6 and 7, col.4 lines 1-33, and col.10 lines 1-45);

the transaction session comprising at least one client interaction session and a data source interaction session, the client interaction session comprising a data access session with the client device, the data source interaction session comprising a session with business logic corresponding to the data source, the transaction session data being stored independently of the information site, the application site, business logic employed upstream of the computer-readable storage device, the client device(Figs.1, 6 and 7, col.4 lines 1-33, and col.10 lines 1-45);

the access medium employed by the client device to establish an interaction session to participate in the transaction, following a connection by a client device to a processing device that employs the computer-readable device, the multiple phases comprising different client interaction sessions via the one or more client devices to participate in at least part of the transaction session, respective ones of the different client interaction sessions being established when a client device establishes a connection to the processing device(Figs.1, 6 and 7, col.4 lines 1-33, and col.10 lines 1-45); the transaction session data comprising user identification data for associating the transaction session to a user participating in the transaction session, the transaction

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session data being saved by the computer-readable storage device at different steps of the transaction session to allow a client device to terminate its connection to the processing device before completion of the transaction session and to establish another connection at a later time to continue the transaction session during another one of the multiple phases(Figs.1, 6 and 7, col.4 lines 1-33, and col.10 lines 1-45).

Regarding claim 20, Elsey teaches a computer-readable storage device as claimed in claim 19, wherein the computer-readable storage device is operable with a session management gateway connected downstream of the data source and upstream of the client devices, the session management gateway being operable to manage the transaction sessions independently of the data source, the business logic, the client devices and access medium employed by the client devices, and the transaction session data is retained in the computer-readable storage device even during the absence of the user device being connected to the session management gateway(Figs.1, 6 and 7, col.4 lines 1-33, and col.10 lines 1-45).

Regarding claim 21, Elsey teaches a computer-readable storage device as claimed in claim 19, wherein the transaction session data is retained in the computer-readable storage device for a predetermined period of time and deleted therefrom if no phases or client interaction sessions are commenced during the predetermined period of time(Figs.1, 6 and 7, col.4 lines 1-33, and col.10 lines 1-45).

Regarding claim 22, Elsey teaches a method as claimed in claim 8, wherein a user initiates the subsequent client interaction session to continue the transaction

session and provides the same user identification data(Figs.1, 6 and 7, col.4 lines 1-33, and col.10 lines 1-45).

Regarding claim 23, Elsey teaches a system as claimed in claim 9, wherein the data source comprises a single application and the session management gateway interacts with the single application for the transaction session, and the system is operable to support multiple phases with respect to the transaction session, the multiple phases comprising different client interaction sessions via the one or more client devices to participate in at least part of the transaction session, the client device being a data device in one phase, and a data device in another phase(Figs.1, 6 and 7, col.4 lines 1-33, and col.10 lines 1-45).

Regarding claim 24, Elsey teaches a method as claimed in claim 18, wherein the user identification data is provided automatically via the user device(Figs.1, 6 and 7, col.4 lines 1-33, and col.10 lines 1-45).

Allowable Subject Matter

6. Claims 8 and 13 allowed from prior office action.

Response to Arguments

7. Applicant's arguments with respect to claims 1-24 have been considered but are moot in view of the new ground(s) of rejection.

Conclusion

8. Applicant's amendment necessitated the new ground(s) of rejection presented in this Office action. Accordingly, **THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL**. See MPEP

§ 706.07(a). Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).


A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire THREE MONTHS from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within TWO MONTHS of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the THREE-MONTH shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than SIX MONTHS from the date of this final action.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Joseph T. Phan whose telephone number is (571) 272-7544. The examiner can normally be reached on Mon-Fri 9am-6pm.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Fan Tsang can be reached on (571) 272-7547. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

JTP
May 8, 2006



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SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER
TECHNOLOGY CENTER 260